

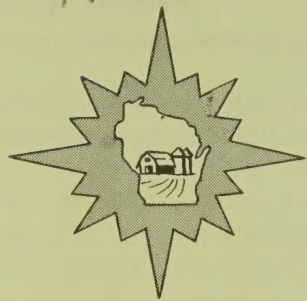
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U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
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# Farm Reporter

- Dairy
- Crops
- Livestock

VOL IV, NO. 2

December 1971

## Cream of the News

Prices received by Wisconsin farmers for all milk sold during November are expected to average \$5.49 a hundredweight, the highest price on record for any month.

Production of red meat during October was down 6 percent from a year ago as the output of pork was under the previous year for the first time since March 1970.

Wholesale prices of cheddar cheese at Wisconsin primary markets increased slightly from October to November but the Swiss cheese price remained the same for the fourth consecutive month.

After increasing 3 percent in each of the last three months, milk production on Wisconsin farms for November was up only 1 percent from a year earlier.

Higher meat animal and milk prices resulted in a 10 point gain from a year ago in the prices received index for Wisconsin farm products at mid-November.

Butter production in the Nation during October was down 3 percent from a year earlier but production of all cheese was up 4 percent.

Barrow and gilt prices at St. Paul averaged \$19.18 a hundredweight for November, down 65 cents from October but \$3.63 above last year.

Cold storage stocks of meat in the Nation on November 30 were 6 percent higher than a year ago as pork supplies were still up 10 percent.

Wisconsin's corn plant population in 1971 was lower than in 1970 based on a stalk count in sample plots.

All hogs and pigs on Wisconsin farms December 1 totaled 1,777,000, a decline of 8 percent from a year earlier.

The Nation's total cheese in cold storage at the end of November was 4 percent less than last year, but butter stocks were up 14 percent.

A record breaking crop production highlighted Wisconsin's agriculture in 1971.

## MILK PRICE TO REACH NEW HIGH

Prices received by Wisconsin farmers for all milk sold during November are expected to average \$5.49 a hundredweight. This would be the highest price ever received for all milk in Wisconsin. The November milk price increased 5 cents from both the previous month and last year.

October milk prices averaged \$5.44 a hundredweight for all uses, up 15 cents from September and 9 cents above October 1970. Milkfat content averaged 3.79 percent in October compared with 3.78 percent a year earlier.

Milk Prices 1/

Selected States	September 1971		October price per cwt.			Nov. 1971 price per cwt. 2/
	Average test	Price per cwt.	1970	1971	70/71 change	
	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars
Milk for all uses						
Wisconsin . . . . .	3.68	5.29	5.35	5.44	+ 2	5.49
Minnesota . . . . .	3.57	5.04	5.00	5.06	+ 1	5.06
Iowa . . . . .	3.53	5.09	5.17	5.15	N.C.	5.25
New York . . . . .	3.57	6.55	6.63	6.60	N.C.	6.55
California . . . . .	3.53	5.55	5.43	5.70	+ 5	5.80
United States . . . .	3.62	5.98	6.02	6.09	+ 1	6.14
Wisconsin utilization						
Market milk . . . . .	3.67	5.53	5.52	5.69	+ 3	XXX
Manufacturing milk . .	3.70	5.01	5.14	5.13	N.C.	XXX
Creameries . . . . .	3.73	5.03	5.06	5.10	+ 1	XXX
Cheese factories . . .	3.69	5.01	5.15	5.13	N.C.	XXX
Varied prod. plants . .	3.72	5.00	5.07	5.11	+ 1	XXX

1/Preliminary average buying prices received for milk of average test. They differ from basic buying prices which are for 3.5% milk. 2/Based on preliminary information for milk of average test.

Wisconsin 3.5 Test Milk Prices 1/

Utilization	October 1970	Sept. 1971	October 1971 2/	Change from last year
	Dollars per cwt.			Percent
Milk for all uses . . . . .	4.94	5.03	5.29	+ 7
Market milk . . . . .	5.12	5.27	5.27	+ 3
Manufacturing milk . . . . .	4.74	4.74	4.71	- 1
Creameries . . . . .	4.62	4.72	4.66	+ 1
American cheese plants . . . . .	4.74	4.73	4.69	- 1
Varied products plants . . . . .	4.70	4.70	4.67	- 1
Federal Order Markets				
Chicago Regional Base Zone 3/ . .	5.46	5.50	5.54	+ 1

1/Computed equivalents. 2/Preliminary. 3/Includes Milwaukee County, Wisconsin and Winnebago County, Illinois.

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WISCONSIN STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE

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Milk produced for the Grade A market returned an average of \$5.69 a hundredweight during October, a gain of 16 cents from September and 17 cents more than the previous year. Manufacturing grade milk, at \$5.13 a hundredweight for October, was up 12 cents from September but down 1 cent from October a year ago. This was the first time since January 1968 that the manufacturing grade milk price was under a year earlier. The price spread between market and manufacturing grade milk was 56 cents for October compared with 38 cents in that month of 1970.

### INCREASE IN MILK PRODUCTION SLOWS

Milk production on Wisconsin farms during November totaled 1,327 million pounds, up about 1 percent from a year earlier. This increase was less than the 3 percent gain shown in the three previous months. Production per cow averaged 715 pounds for November, the same as a year ago and the first time in two years that production per cow did not exceed the level of a year earlier. Milk production in Wisconsin had a seasonal decline of 6 percent from October to November compared with a 3 percent drop for those months in 1970. Total output for January through November 1971 was more than 2 percent above that period last year.

Milk Production

Selected States	November 1970	November 1971	Jan.-Nov. 1971	Change from last year	
				Nov.	Jan.-Nov.
	Million pounds			Percent	
Wisconsin . . . .	1,320	1,327	17,298	+ 1	+ 2
Minnesota . . .	683	676	8,970	- 1	N.C.
Iowa . . . . .	337	327	4,221	- 3	- 3
New York . . . .	779	794	9,612	+ 2	N.C.
Pennsylvania . .	541	555	6,563	+ 3	N.C.
California . . . .	764	777	8,958	+ 2	+ 3
Other states . . .	4,418	4,519	53,551	+ 2	+ 1
United States . .	8,842	8,975	109,173	+ 2	+ 1

The Nation's milk production of 8,975 million pounds for November was 1½ percent above a year ago. Daily average production was down 1 percent from October, the same decrease as a year earlier. Milk output per cow averaged 726 pounds in November, up 2 percent from the previous year. For the first 11 months of 1971, milk production in the Nation was 1 percent more than that period in 1970.

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Dairy farmers in Wisconsin reported feeding a daily average of 11.2 pounds of grain and other concentrates per milk cow as of December 1 compared with 10½ pounds for that date last year. Nationally, daily feeding of grain and other concentrates averaged 11.8 pounds per milk cow on December 1, up from the rate of 11½ pounds a year earlier.

### CHEESE STOCKS BELOW LAST YEAR

The Nation's total cheese in cold storage on November 30 was 4 percent less than last year. The 312½ million pounds of cheese in cold storage at the end of November were 24 million pounds below the previous year. Stocks of American cheese, at almost 247 million pounds, were down 3 percent from November 30, 1970. Swiss cheese supplies were a fourth lower than a year ago while stocks of all other cheese declined 5 percent. Government stocks of American cheese in cold storage at the end of November amounted to about 3 million pounds, 12 percent under a year earlier.

Cold storage stocks of butter in the Nation at the end of November totaled 153 million pounds, an increase of 14 percent from the previous year. The Government held 114 million pounds of butter in cold storage on November 30, just 1 percent more than on that date last year.

Cold Storage Stocks of Butter and Cheese

Commodity	Nov. 30, 1969	Nov. 30, 1970	Nov. 30, 1971	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
	UNITED STATES			
Butter . . . . .	104,329	134,262	153,132	+ 14
Cheese, American . . . . .	274,782	254,817	246,680	- 3
Cheese, Swiss . . . . .	9,337	11,736	8,782	- 25
Cheese, all other . . . . .	44,572	60,203	57,081	- 5
Cheese, total . . . . .	328,691	326,756	312,543	- 4
	WISCONSIN			
Butter . . . . .	2,379	1,493	6,180	+ 314
Cheese, American . . . . .	149,798	142,556	141,500	- 1
	GOVERNMENT STOCKS*			
Butter . . . . .	85,131	113,708	114,351	+ 1
Cheese, American . . . . .	1,416	3,587	3,158	- 12

\*Included in above totals.

Manufacturers' Stocks of Other Dairy Products  
United States

Commodity	October 31, 1969	October 31, 1970	October 31, 1971	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
Dried whole milk . . . . .	6,729	6,634	6,676	+ 1
Dried skim milk . . . . .	110,406	124,707	108,256	- 13
Dried buttermilk. . . . .	5,228	8,414	2,999	- 64
Condensed milk and Evapor- ated milk (case goods) 1/ .	150,649	179,957	151,505	- 16

1/Combined to avoid disclosing individual operations.

### OCTOBER BUTTER OUTPUT BELOW YEAR EARLIER

Production of butter in the Nation during October was down 3 percent from last year. Although Wisconsin's output of butter in October was nearly the same as a year ago, Minnesota had a decline of 20 percent. Churnings of butter in



Iowa were 8 percent under October 1970 but all other states showed an increase of 6 percent.

Production of all cheese in the Nation during October, at 181 million pounds, was up 4 percent from the previous year. Production increases totaled 6 percent for American, 14 percent for Swiss, 7 percent for Italian, and 4 percent for Brick and Muenster. All other varieties of cheese had a production decline of 18 percent from October a year ago.

#### Current Dairy Products Estimates

Item and area	Oct. 1970	Oct. 1971	Jan.- Oct. 1971	Change from last year	
				October	Jan.-Oct.
	1,000 pounds			Percent	
BUTTER					
Wisconsin . . . . .	14,147	14,150	175,440	N.C.	+ 3
Minnesota. . . . .	19,638	15,800	238,445	- 20	- 6
Iowa. . . . .	7,196	6,600	80,380	- 8	- 2
Other states. . . . .	40,599	42,885	481,220	+ 6	+ 5
United States. . . . .	81,580	79,435	975,485	- 3	+ 1
CHEESE, AMERICAN					
Wisconsin . . . . .	47,478	49,100	578,150	+ 3	+ 3
Minnesota. . . . .	9,454	12,390	137,705	+ 31	+ 32
Missouri. . . . .	7,352	6,690	78,430	- 9	+ 4
Other states . . . . .	40,258	43,065	504,225	+ 7	+ 5
United States. . . . .	104,542	111,245	1,298,510	+ 6	+ 7
CHEESE, MISCELLANEOUS					
United States					
Swiss . . . . .	11,740	13,385	130,375	+ 14	+ 6
Brick and Muenster . .	4,812	5,010	49,730	+ 4	+ 7
Limburger . . . . .	257	235	2,105	- 9	- 9
Italian. . . . .	34,600	36,975	372,420	+ 7	+ 15
All other . . . . .	17,332	14,230	140,705	- 18	- 3
Total . . . . .	68,741	69,835	695,335	+ 2	+ 9
ALL CHEESE					
United States. . . . .	173,283	181,080	1,993,845	+ 4	+ 7
OTHER PRODUCTS					
Cottage Cheese					
United States					
Curd 1/. . . . .	60,609	61,590	639,780	+ 2	+ 4
Creamed 2/. . . . .	81,687	81,735	862,360	N.C.	+ 3
	1,000 gallons			Percent	
Ice Cream					
Wisconsin . . . . .	1,670	1,760	17,545	+ 5	- 5
Illinois. . . . .	3,187	3,340	35,515	+ 5	+ 3
Iowa. . . . .	631	590	6,600	- 6	- 4
Michigan . . . . .	2,955	2,830	31,515	- 4	- 2
Minnesota. . . . .	2,254	2,060	24,565	- 9	+ 2
Other states. . . . .	49,701	51,330	548,625	+ 3	+ 1
United States. . . . .	60,398	61,910	664,365	+ 3	+ 1

1/Includes cottage, pot, and bakers' cheese with a milkfat content of less than 4 percent. 2/Includes cheese with a milkfat content of 4 to 19 percent.

Wisconsin's output of American cheese during October was up 3 percent from the previous year. Production of American cheese in Minnesota during October was 31 percent above last year. American cheese production in Missouri declined 9 percent from October 1970 but all other states had a gain of 7 percent.

Output of creamed cottage cheese in the Nation for October was about equal to a year earlier but cottage cheese curd production increased 2 percent. The Nation's ice cream production in October was 3 percent greater than last year.

#### BUTTER OUTPUT LIKELY TO CONTINUE LOWER

Based on weekly receipts of milk by dairy plants, production of butter in the Nation during November will be about 3 percent under a year earlier, the same decline as in October. However, because of higher production earlier in the year, total output of butter through October was up 1

percent from the comparable period in 1970. Wisconsin's butter production for November could also be less than the previous year, but total churnings through October were 3 percent above January-October 1970.

#### Recent Changes in Butter and Cheese Output

Periods	Butter			American Cheese		
	United States		Wisconsin	United States		Wisconsin
	Production 1971	Change from last year	Change from last year	Production 1971	Change from last year	Change from last year
	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent
October . . . . .	79,435	- 3	N.C.	111,245	+ 6	+ 3
Jan.-Oct. . . . .	975,485	+ 1	+ 3	1,298,510	+ 7	+ 3
Weeks ending						
Nov. 4 . . . . .	18,150	- 4	N.C.	24,600	+ 11	+ 3
Nov. 11 . . . . .	18,000	- 5	- 6	24,000	+ 9	+ 2
Nov. 18 . . . . .	17,600	- 3	- 1	23,650	+ 5	+ 1
Nov. 25 . . . . .	16,550	+ 1	- 6	22,950	+ 4	- 2
Dec. 2 . . . . .	19,850	- 5	+ 1	24,800	+ 4	+ 3
Total . . . . .	90,150	- 3	XXX	120,000	+ 7	XXX

Production of American cheese in the Nation during November may be about 7 percent more than a year earlier. This would be the same increase as shown for January through October. Weekly milk receipts indicate that Wisconsin's output of American cheese for November could be up slightly from last year. The State's production of American cheese through October was 3 percent more than in the first 10 months of 1970.

#### CHEDDAR CHEESE PRICE HAS SLIGHT GAIN

Wholesale prices of cheddar cheese, 40 pound blocks, averaged 56.09 cents a pound at Wisconsin primary markets in November. This was a slight increase from the average of 56 cents a pound for October but was down from the November 1970 price of 57 cents.

Block Swiss cheese, Wisconsin State Brand, averaged 66½ cents a pound in November, the same as October but 3½ cents below the previous year. The wholesale price of Swiss cheese has remained at 66½ cents a pound for the last four months.

#### Wholesale Dairy Prices

Commodity	November 1970	October 1971	November 1971 1/
Butter, 92-score, New York, pound . . .	70.88¢	68.83¢	68.79¢
Cheese, Cheddars, Wisconsin primary markets, 40 lb. blocks, pound 2/ . . .	57.00¢	56.00¢	56.09¢
Cheese, Swiss, Wisconsin State Brand, block pound 2/ . . . . .	70.00¢	66.50¢	66.50¢
Evaporated milk, North Central States, case, 48-14½ oz. cans, range . . . . .	-	\$7.70-9.24	-
Nonfat dry milk solids, spray, Chicago area, pound. . . . .	26.82¢	31.70¢	31.61¢

1/Preliminary estimates. 2/Selling prices, f.o.b. at Wisconsin assembly points.

Prices of 92-score butter at the New York market averaged 68.79 cents a pound during November, a small decline from the average of 68.83 cents for October and more than 2 cents under November a year ago.

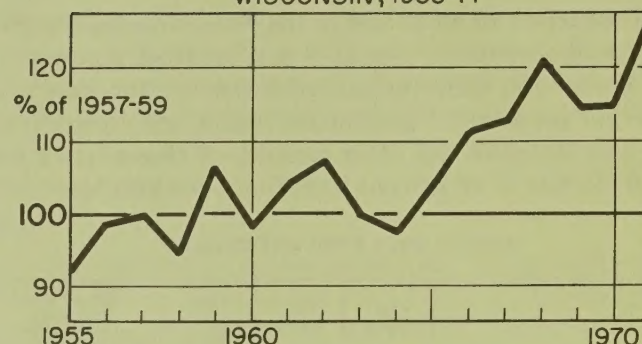


## 1971 CROP SUMMARY

The 1971 crop season was extremely productive despite much below normal rainfall in certain areas such as the east and south. Other areas generally had plenty of moisture, with the result that harvesting of crops was often a problem. A key to the success of the 1971 season was the unusually warm month of June which had nine days when temperatures exceeded 90 degrees. June averaged the warmest of any month in 1971 and the corn crop responded very favorably to the combination of heat and timely rainfall. Only in parts of the southwest and southeast where dry weather persisted for much of the season did corn and other crops fail to realize their full potential. The crop production index for 1971, based on crop estimates as of October 1, was 126 percent of the 1957-59 average. This was 11 points above 1970 and a record high.

Field work in the spring started slowly in the north where fields were wet from the heavy snow melt. The moisture from this snow melt assumed a greater importance as the usual spring rains were noticeably absent until the third week of May. June was one of the best growing months in many years. Cool temperatures in July and August slowed plant development but minimized any moisture stress in those areas of below normal rainfall. Warm weather in the first half of September allowed the corn crop to mature safely. Mild temperatures prevailed through October but cloudy, foggy, and damp conditions slowed the drying of corn and soybeans.

First crop hay yields were heavy in the north though lighter than usual in the south and east due to insufficient

CROP PRODUCTION INDEX  
WISCONSIN, 1955-71

spring moisture. Second crop hay was generally short but where adequate moisture was received third crop had good growth. Production of all hay for 1971 was 11.2 million tons, an increase of 5 percent from 1970 and 2 percent above the previous high of 1969.

Small grains yielded well in 1971. Higher yields and more acres harvested than last year resulted in production increases of 22 percent for barley, 18 percent for wheat, and 11 percent for rye. The oat crop was down 10 percent from 1970 as acreage continued to decrease and yield declined 1 bushel per acre.

The 1971 grain corn crop was expected to total 196.6 million bushels, up 37 percent from 1970 and 21 percent larger than the previous record production in 1968. Acres for

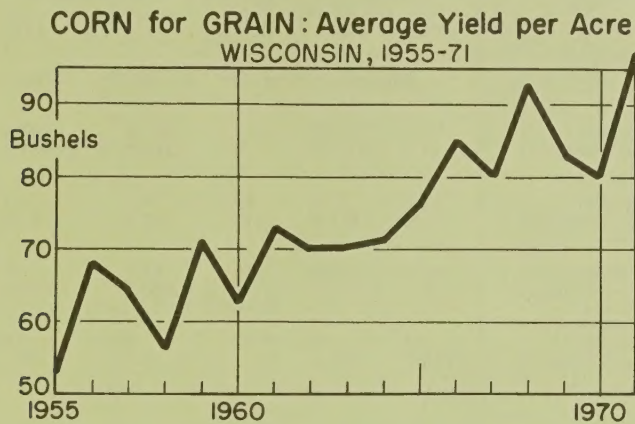
Crop Summary of Wisconsin for December 1, 1971

Crop	Acreage			Yield per acre			Unit	Production		
	1969	1970	1971 (prelimi- nary)	1969	1970	1971 (prelimi- nary)		1969	1970	1971 (prelimi- nary)
	Thousands							Thousands		
FIELD CROPS										
Corn for grain . . . . .	1,684	1,794	2,027	83.0	80.0	97.0	Bu.	139,772	143,520	196,619
Oats . . . . .	1,687	1,687	1,535	61.0	62.0	61.0	Bu.	102,907	104,594	93,635
Barley . . . . .	35	33	36	55.0	51.0	57.0	Bu.	1,925	1,683	2,052
Rye . . . . .	18	17	18	21.0	22.0	23.0	Bu.	378	374	414
Wheat (all) . . . . .	44	40	45	34.4	35.6	37.4	Bu.	1,514	1,422	1,685
Winter . . . . .	31	26	29	35.0	38.0	41.0	Bu.	1,085	988	1,189
Spring . . . . .	13	14	16	33.0	31.0	31.0	Bu.	429	434	496
Soybeans for beans . . . . .	174	153	148	19.0	21.0	22.0	Bu.	3,306	3,213	3,256
Potatoes (all) . . . . .	53.0	52.0	51.5	234	251	259	Cwt.	12,410	13,028	13,338
Late summer . . . . .	15.5	15.5	15.5	220	240	245	Cwt.	3,410	3,720	3,798
Fall . . . . .	37.5	36.5	36.0	240	255	265	Cwt.	9,000	9,308	9,540
Tobacco (all) . . . . .	7.4	8.8	10.4	1,778	2,095	2,025	Lb.	13,154	18,436	21,060
Type 54 . . . . .	3.7	4.4	5.2	1,740	2,135	2,150	Lb.	6,438	9,394	11,180
Type 55 . . . . .	3.7	4.4	5.2	1,815	2,055	1,900	Lb.	6,716	9,042	9,880
HAY AND FORAGE										
Hay (all) . . . . .	4,022	4,016	4,099	2.72	2.64	2.72	Ton	10,949	10,601	11,165
Alfalfa and mixtures. . . . .	2,958	2,958	2,988	2.90	2.80	2.90	Ton	8,578	8,282	8,665
All other . . . . .	1,064	1,058	1,111	2.23	2.19	2.25	Ton	2,371	2,319	2,500
VEGETABLE CROPS										
Carrots 1/. . . . .	2.8	2.9	2.8	400	425	425	Cwt.	1,120	1,233	1,190
Cabbage 1/. . . . .	5.8	6.4	5.8	315	335	350	Cwt.	1,827	2,144	2,030
Lettuce . . . . .	1.5	1.4	1.6	200	210	220	Cwt.	300	294	352
Mint for oil. . . . .	7.2	8.2	7.4	43	54	40	Cwt.	313	443	296
Onions, commercial 1/. . . . .	1.6	1.7	1.6	200	260	235	Cwt.	320	442	376
For processing:										
Green lima beans. . . . .	8.3	6.6	5.3	1.01	.97	1.25	Ton 2/	8.4	6.4	6.7
Peas . . . . .	113.8	118.6	125.1	1.18	1.16	1.17	Ton 2/	134.3	137.6	146.4
Snap beans . . . . .	45.4	44.1	50.1	2.10	2.26	2.59	Ton	95.4	99.7	129.8
Sweet corn . . . . .	118.7	117.6	117.9	3.57	3.82	4.57	Ton	423.8	449.3	538.8
Cucumbers for pickles. . . . .	14.9	11.5	8.2	2.83	4.26	5.04	Ton	42.2	49.0	41.4
Beets for canning . . . . .	6.6	5.8	5.8	11.00	10.43	11.66	Ton	72.6	60.5	67.7
FRUITS, ETC.										
Apples, commercial . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	Lb.	65,000	58,000	62,000
Tart cherries . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	Ton	2.7	3.5	8.0
Cranberries . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	Bbl.	746	702	700
Strawberries 1/. . . . .	1.8	1.8	1.7	29	27	28	Cwt.	52	49	48

1/Includes portion processed. 2/Shelled.



harvest increased 13 percent and the yield of 97 bushels per acre was 17 bushels above the previous year. Damage from Southern corn leaf blight was minimal. Field harvesting conditions were much better than in 1970 when stalk rot was prevalent. However, wet weather and higher moisture content than a year ago delayed the corn harvest, particularly in the north. Some corn still remained standing in the fields when the first snows came in late November. Silage yields for 1971 were heavy and quality was excellent.



Good weather at pollination time benefitted fruit production in 1971. The cherry crop of 8,000 tons was more than the two previous years combined. Apple production, at 62 million pounds, was 7 percent greater than in 1970. The warm fall allowed cranberries to develop good size and resulted in a crop of 700,000 barrels, nearly equal to the 702,000 barrels produced in 1970.

Potatoes achieved a record yield per acre in 1971. Although acreage was slightly under 1970, production of potatoes was up. Output of tobacco, at 21 million pounds in 1971, was the largest in ten years. Garden and commercial vegetable crops did very well this year also. Production of sweet corn was up 20 percent from 1970 while output of green peas increased 6 percent.

#### Weather Summary, November, 1971

Station	Temperature				Precipitation 1/		
	Low	High	Mean	Normal	For month	Normal	Accumulative departure since January 1
Amery . . . . .	5	57	32	31	2.50	1.50	9.01
Superior . . . . .	9	56	32	31	2.46	1.79	2.90
Spooner . . . . .	3	57	32	30	2.31	1.58	.50
Park Falls . . . . .	2	54	31	29	2.56	2.02	-1.09
Rhineland . . . . .	3	55	32	30	2.05	1.98	4.10
Medford . . . . .	5	55	32	30	1.95	2.13	-2.20
Marinette . . . . .	16	63	38	36	2.46	2.42	4.63
Antigo . . . . .	2	58	33	32	2.22	1.99	.25
River Falls . . . . .	2	58	33	32	2.68	1.61	2.33
La Crosse . . . . .	11	64	37	34	1.57	1.94	-3.73
Hatfield Dam . . . . .	1	62	34	33	2.47	1.87	.07
Marshfield . . . . .	9	58	33	32	1.77	2.03	1.16
Hancock . . . . .	3	67	35	33	2.72	2.21	.21
Green Bay . . . . .	11	66	35	34	3.21	1.91	.62
Oshkosh . . . . .	11	64	36	35	3.68	2.13	.02
Sheboygan . . . . .	17	64	39	37	3.08	2.22	-2.46
Manitowoc . . . . .	18	60	36	37	3.81	2.30	-4.96
Lancaster . . . . .	12	67	37	36	4.00	2.12	-.30
Darlington . . . . .	10	71	37	36	4.15	2.21	-3.74
Hillsboro . . . . .	9	68	37	34	3.37	2.26	
Portage . . . . .	8	70	35	37	3.18	2.18	-2.93
Madison . . . . .	7	71	35	35	3.48	2.14	-5.33
Beloit . . . . .	11	74	42	39	2.73	2.42	-6.31
Lake Geneva . . . . .	12	70	38	37	2.42	2.16	
Milwaukee (airport) . . . . .	15	70	37	36	2.45	2.18	-5.78
Average for 25 stations	8.3	63.2	35.1	33.8	2.77	2.05	-.57

1/Average of 23 stations for accumulative departure precipitation.

## WISCONSIN'S CORN PLANT POPULATION LOWER

Corn plant population in Wisconsin in 1971 was lower than the previous year. Based on a stalk count in 150 sample plots, the population in 1971 was 18,100 plants per acre compared with 18,800 in 1970. Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Nebraska also had a lower plant population in 1971 than a year earlier. However, the North Central region averaged 17,200 plants per acre, a slight increase of 100 plants from 1970.

Measurements of row spacing of corn for grain from 1967 to 1971 show a continued downward trend in the space between rows for the North Central region. Wisconsin had shown this same trend but the State's average row width was unchanged from 1970 to 1971 at 37.4 inches. The more popular row width for the past two years in Wisconsin ranged between 36.6 and 38.5 inches, as over a third of the samples fell into this category. For the years 1967-1971, Wisconsin's row width has averaged about ½ inch more than the combined North Central states.

#### Measured Row Spacing of Corn for Grain 1/

State and year	Row width groups (inches)					Average width
	34.5 & less	34.6 — 36.5	36.6 — 38.5	38.6 — 40.5	40.6 & greater	
	Percent of samples					Inches
Wisconsin						
1967. . . . .	3.6	6.4	32.7	42.7	14.6	38.5
1968. . . . .	8.5	8.5	32.2	33.0	17.8	38.1
1969. . . . .	9.1	14.4	29.6	33.3	13.6	37.9
1970. . . . .	13.2	11.8	33.8	30.9	10.3	37.4
1971. . . . .	13.3	11.3	36.7	30.0	8.7	37.4
North Central 2/						
1967. . . . .	10.1	6.4	32.3	40.1	11.1	38.1
1968. . . . .	15.5	7.0	30.3	37.9	9.3	37.4
1969. . . . .	16.5	8.2	32.6	33.3	9.4	37.3
1970. . . . .	20.3	8.3	35.3	28.7	7.4	37.0
1971. . . . .	22.7	7.9	36.7	26.5	6.2	36.7

1/Spacings based on row measurements in sample plots selected for objective yield determinations. 2/Excludes North Dakota.

#### Plant Population per Acre of Corn for Grain 1/

States	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
Ohio . . . . .	15,400	17,500	17,700	18,200	16,900
Indiana . . . . .	16,300	16,700	17,000	17,900	17,000
Illinois . . . . .	17,100	17,900	18,600	18,100	18,000
Wisconsin . . . . .	17,100	18,200	17,600	18,800	18,100
Minnesota . . . . .	15,900	17,200	18,100	18,400	18,600
Iowa . . . . .	16,000	17,200	17,400	18,000	18,100
Missouri . . . . .	13,100	14,400	15,000	14,600	14,800
Nebraska . . . . .	13,900	15,900	15,600	16,400	16,000
North Central 2/ . . . . .	15,500	16,700	17,000	17,100	17,200

1/Population based on stalk count in sample plots selected for objective yield determinations. 2/Excludes North Dakota.

## PRICES RECEIVED INDEX UP

Higher meat animal and milk prices for the month ending November 15 resulted in a 10 point gain from a year ago in the prices received index for Wisconsin farm products. At 345 percent of the 1910-14 base, the index of prices received was also 1 point above a month earlier.

Hog prices averaged \$19.00 a hundredweight for mid-November, down 60 cents from October but \$3.50 above a year earlier. Steers and heifers averaged \$28.50 a hundredweight in November, up 20 cents from the previous month



and \$3.50 more than November 1970. Slaughter cows, at \$20.50 a hundredweight on November 15, were unchanged from October but \$2.20 higher than last year.

Calves averaged \$41.00 a hundredweight in November, a decline of 70 cents from October but \$5.40 above a year ago. Sheep, at \$5.30 a hundredweight, advanced 10 cents from October and were the same as November 1970. The mid-November lamb price of \$24.00 a hundredweight was 30 cents above the previous month and 50 cents greater than a year earlier. With some livestock prices considerably higher than last year, the meat animal index for mid-November increased 51 points (16 percent) from a year ago.

Egg prices gained 3 cents from October to November, but at 29 cents a dozen were still 4 cents under November 1970. Turkeys averaged 22 cents a pound liveweight on November 15, the same as a month earlier but down 1 cent from last year.

Corn prices declined for the fifth consecutive month. At \$1.04 a bushel for mid-November, corn was 6 cents lower than in October and 28 cents under November a year ago. Oats increased 2 cents a bushel from October to November, but at 69 cents was down 4 cents from November 1970. Soybeans averaged \$2.83 a bushel on November 15, a decline of 10 cents from the previous month but still 8 cents above a year earlier and the best price for November since 1947.

Prices Received by Wisconsin Farmers

Commodity	Unit	November 1969	November 1970	October 1971	November 1971
Dollars					
Milk cows . . . . .	Head	340.00	380.00	410.00	415.00
Steers and heifers . .	Cwt.	25.60	25.00	28.30	28.50
Cows . . . . .	Cwt.	19.00	18.30	20.50	20.50
Calves . . . . .	Cwt.	34.20	35.60	41.70	41.00
Hogs . . . . .	Cwt.	24.70	15.50	19.60	19.00
Sheep . . . . .	Cwt.	6.70	5.30	5.20	5.30
Lambs . . . . .	Cwt.	26.60	23.50	23.70	24.00
Wool . . . . .	Lb.	.35	.32	.25	.25
Chickens 1/ . . . . .	Lb.	.070	.080	.085	.085
Turkeys . . . . .	Lb.	.24	.23	.22	.22
Eggs . . . . .	Doz.	.52	.33	.26	.29
Corn . . . . .	Bu.	1.08	1.32	1.10	1.04
Oats . . . . .	Bu.	.62	.73	.67	.69
Alfalfa hay, baled . .	Ton	18.00	20.50	21.00	21.50

1/Excludes broilers.

## RED MEAT PRODUCTION LOWER IN OCTOBER

Commercial slaughter plants in Wisconsin produced 104 million pounds of red meat during October, down 1 percent from September and 6 percent under October 1970. Output of beef in October declined 2 percent from a year ago and pork production was down 11 percent. This was the first time since March 1970 that production of pork was below the previous year.

A total of 96,000 cattle were slaughtered in October, 2,000 less than September and 1,500 under October last year. Average liveweight of cattle was 1,094 pounds, 5 pounds lighter than in October 1970.

The October hog kill of 310,000 was 7,000 fewer than September and 38,000 below a year ago. Hogs averaged 238 pounds liveweight for October, up 1 pound from a year earlier.

Calf slaughter, at 27,000 in October, declined 6,500 from the previous year. Average liveweight of calves was 148 pounds, 8 pounds more than October last year. A total of 400 sheep and lambs were butchered during October compared with 300 a year ago.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter

Area	Number			Liveweight	
	October		Change from last year	October	
	1970	1971		1970	1971
	1,000 head		Percent	Million pounds	
Cattle					
Wisconsin . . . . .	97.5	96.0	— 2	107.2	105.0
United States 1/ . .	3,141.5	3,009.7	— 4	3,216.5	3,065.7
Calves					
Wisconsin . . . . .	33.5	27.0	— 19	4.7	4.0
United States 1/ . .	352.9	307.5	— 13	87.7	77.0
Hogs					
Wisconsin . . . . .	348.0	310.0	— 11	82.5	73.8
United States 1/ . .	8,352.5	7,787.2	— 7	1,996.8	1,854.2
Sheep and lambs					
Wisconsin . . . . .	.3	.4	+ 33	.033	.038
United States 1/ . .	965.0	959.2	— 1	99.4	98.3

1/Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

## MEAT STOCKS GREATER THAN YEAR AGO

Stocks of meat in the Nation's cold storage facilities on November 30, were up 6 percent from a year ago. Beef supplies showed a gain of only 1 percent but pork stocks increased 10 percent. There were 321 million pounds of beef in cold storage at the end of November, a decline of more than 25 million pounds from a month earlier but 3 million pounds above last year.

Pork in cold storage on November 30 totaled almost 335 million pounds, an increase of 22½ million pounds from the previous month and 31 million pounds higher than a year ago. Frozen pork bellies, at 70 million pounds, were 28 million pounds more than on November 30, 1970.

Frozen veal in cold storage at the end of November amounted to 8 million pounds, 3 percent less than a year earlier. Stocks of frozen lamb and mutton were down 4 percent from November 30 last year.

Cold Storage Stocks of Meat  
United States

Commodity	Nov. 30, 1969	Nov. 30, 1970	Oct. 31, 1971	Nov. 30, 1971	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds				Percent
Beef:					
Frozen . . . . .	320,938	304,317	337,227	312,289	+ 3
In cure and cured . . . .	12,310	13,549	9,396	8,640	- 36
Total . . . . .	333,248	317,866	346,623	320,929	+ 1
Pork:					
Frozen . . . . .	189,888	276,369	289,906	310,100	+ 12
In cooler . . . . .	30,687	27,132	22,324	24,646	- 9
Total . . . . .	220,575	303,501	312,230	334,746	+ 10
Other meats and meat products:					
Veal, frozen . . . . .	9,680	8,494	8,114	8,277	- 3
Lamb and mutton, frozen.	17,343	19,653	20,059	18,805	- 4
Canned meats in cooler:					
Hams . . . . .	39,624	46,533	64,635	59,716	+ 28
Other meats . . . . .	14,773	18,563	16,941	16,923	- 9
Total, all meats. . . . .	635,243	714,610	768,602	759,396	+ 6



## DECEMBER 1 HOG INVENTORY LOWER

All hogs and pigs on Wisconsin farms December 1, 1971 totaled 1,777,000, a decline of 8 percent from a year earlier. Hogs being kept for breeding purposes numbered 275,000 on December 1, down 8 percent from the previous year. There were 1,502,000 hogs being raised primarily for slaughter, also 8 percent less than on December 1, 1970.

A total of 122,000 sows farrowed on Wisconsin farms during September through November compared with 134,000 for these months in 1970. The September-November pig crop of 936,000 was 7 percent below a year earlier. Litter rates for the third quarter of 1971 averaged 7.67 pigs, up 2 percent from the average of 7.49 pigs per litter in September-November 1970.

Wisconsin farmers plan to farrow 69,000 sows during December 1971 through February 1972. This would be 13 percent less than a year earlier. Farrowings from March through May 1972 are expected to total 134,000 sows, 10 percent under that period in 1971.

The 10 Corn Belt States, including Wisconsin, had 46,514,000 hogs and pigs on farms December 1, down 8 percent from a year earlier. These 10 States accounted for 74 percent of the Nation's total hog and pig inventory of 62,972,000 on December 1, 1971. There were 6,216,000 hogs being kept for breeding purposes in the 10 Corn Belt States, a decline of 9 percent from December 1, 1970. Market hogs, at 40,298,000 were 8 percent below a year ago.

All Hogs and Pigs on Farms, Breeding and Market  
December 1, 1970 and 1971, 10 States

State	For breeding			Market			Total hogs and pigs		
	1970	1971	Change from last year	1970	1971	Change from last year	1970	1971	Change from last year
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent
Ohio . . . . .	369	313	- 15	2,469	2,298	- 7	2,838	2,611	- 8
Indiana . . . . .	615	596	- 3	4,514	4,584	+ 2	5,129	5,180	+ 1
Illinois . . . . .	1,023	924	- 10	6,445	5,676	- 12	7,468	6,600	- 12
Wisconsin . . . . .	299	275	- 8	1,633	1,502	- 8	1,932	1,777	- 8
Minnesota . . . . .	543	514	- 5	3,149	3,030	- 4	3,692	3,544	- 4
Iowa . . . . .	2,203	1,975	- 10	14,119	12,878	- 9	16,322	14,853	- 9
Missouri . . . . .	717	652	- 9	4,403	4,007	- 9	5,120	4,659	- 9
S. Dakota . . . . .	291	262	- 10	1,718	1,606	- 7	2,009	1,868	- 7
Nebraska . . . . .	480	432	- 10	3,211	2,890	- 10	3,691	3,322	- 10
Kansas . . . . .	297	273	- 8	1,905	1,827	- 4	2,202	2,100	- 5
Total 10 states . . . . .	6,837	6,216	- 9	43,566	40,298	- 8	50,403	46,514	- 8

Sows Farrowing, Pigs per Litter and Pig Crop  
September through November, 1970 and 1971, 10 States

State	Sows farrowing			Pigs per litter		Pig crop 1/		
	1970	1971	Change from last year	1970	1971	1970	1971	Change from last year
	1,000 head		Percent	Head		1,000 head		Percent
Ohio . . . . .	144	135	- 6	7.40	7.50	1,066	1,013	- 5
Indiana . . . . .	215	210	- 2	7.36	7.50	1,582	1,575	N. C.
Illinois . . . . .	437	375	- 14	6.85	6.90	2,993	2,588	- 14
Wisconsin . . . . .	134	122	- 9	7.49	7.67	1,004	936	- 7
Minnesota . . . . .	175	172	- 2	7.20	7.35	1,260	1,264	N. C.
Iowa . . . . .	776	714	- 8	7.05	7.25	5,471	5,177	- 5
Missouri . . . . .	318	281	- 12	7.16	7.25	2,277	2,037	- 11
S. Dakota . . . . .	107	98	- 8	7.26	7.10	777	696	- 10
Nebraska . . . . .	216	194	- 10	7.10	7.00	1,534	1,358	- 11
Kansas . . . . .	123	119	- 3	7.60	7.65	935	910	- 3
Total 10 states . . . . .	2,645	2,420	- 9	7.15	7.25	18,899	17,554	- 7

1/Number of pigs born September through November that were still on hand December 1 or had been sold.

Sows to Farrow, December through May, 10 States

State	December 1/ through February			March through May		
	1971	1972 2/	Change from last year	1971	1972 2/	Change from last year
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent
Ohio . . . . .	123	105	- 15	147	125	- 15
Indiana . . . . .	242	230	- 5	264	260	- 2
Illinois . . . . .	337	285	- 15	489	435	- 11
Wisconsin . . . . .	79	69	- 13	149	134	- 10
Minnesota . . . . .	159	153	- 4	271	255	- 6
Iowa . . . . .	529	444	- 16	1,123	1,044	- 7
Missouri . . . . .	222	210	- 5	317	285	- 10
S. Dakota . . . . .	77	70	- 9	190	165	- 13
Nebraska . . . . .	161	148	- 8	252	224	- 11
Kansas . . . . .	99	95	- 4	122	125	+ 2
Total 10 states . . . . .	2,028	1,809	- 11	3,324	3,052	- 8

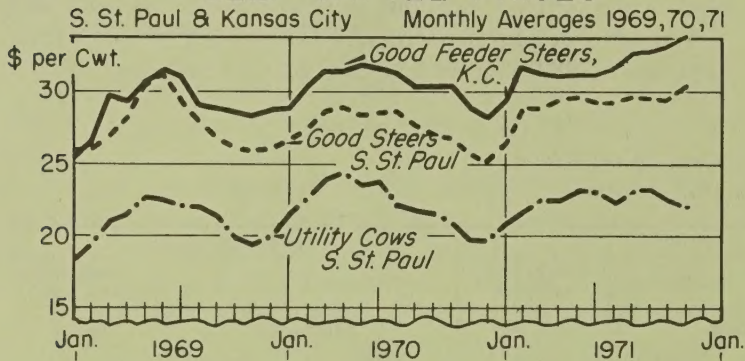
1/December of preceding year. 2/Number indicated by breeding intentions reports.



## STEER PRICES UP

Good grade steers at the St. Paul market averaged \$30.28 a hundredweight for November, a gain of 81 cents from October and \$4.54 higher than last year. Good grade feeder steers at the Kansas City market averaged \$33.88 a hundredweight in November, an increase of 90 cents from a month earlier and \$4.92 above November 1970. Utility cow prices at St. Paul averaged nearly \$22.00 a hundredweight during November, down 82 cents from October but \$2.18 more than a year ago.

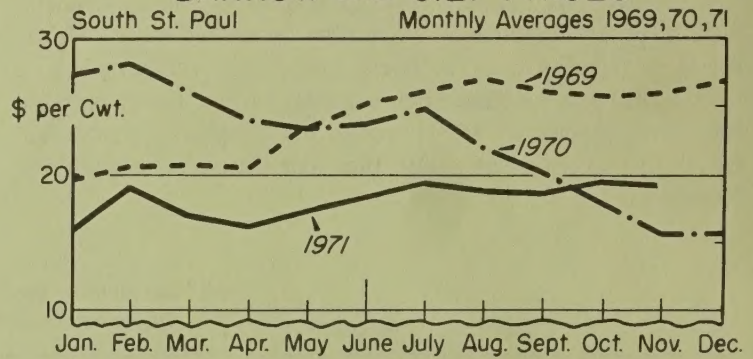
## BEEF CATTLE PRICES



## HOG MARKET LOWER

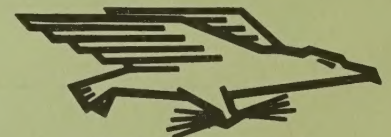
Barrow and gilt prices at the St. Paul market averaged \$19.18 a hundredweight in November, a decline of 65 cents from the previous month. However, the November price was \$3.63 above a year earlier when prices of barrows and gilts fell to a 1970 low of \$15.55 a hundredweight.

## BARROW and GILT PRICES



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